and remarks presented hereinafter.

A. In the Specification:

Please amend the Abstract by replacing the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

A very large virtual storage volume formed by distributing disks in multiple, multi-disk RAID (redundant array of independent disks) sets across busses of a back-end controller. The multiple RAID sets are striped by a front-end controller to connected to the back-end controller and presented to a host computer as a very large virtual storage volume.

B. In the claims:

Please amend claims 1, 6, 13, 14 and 18 as follows:

1(Amended).   An apparatus for providing a virtual volume, the apparatus comprising:
a plurality of disks;
a plurality of back-end controllers coupled to the disks for organizing and presenting the disks as a plurality of redundant arrays of disks; and
a front-end controller coupled to the plurality of back-end controllers for striping the redundant arrays of disks and presenting the striped arrays as a virtual volume.

6(Amended).   An apparatus for providing a virtual volume, the apparatus comprising:
a plurality of disks;
a redundant array of independent disks (RAID) engine comprising a plurality of back end controllers coupled to the disks for organizing and presenting the disks as a plurality of RAID sets; and
a striping engine coupled to the RAID engine for receiving the RAID sets as members, striping the member RAID sets, and presenting the striped RAID sets as a virtual volume.

2